



Hewlett-Packard Company
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Company Position
For external use

Lead Elimination Position Statement

The European Union has adopted a new directive, the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS), which will restrict the use of certain substances, including lead (Pb), in electrical and electronic products. The directive applies to all such electrical and electronic products, and their component parts, placed on the market after July 1, 2006. In addition to lead, the directive restricts the use of mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, and certain halide-containing flame retardants.

Commitment to Compliance

Hewlett-Packard Company (HP) is committed to compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, including the restriction of hazardous substances in electronic products. The RoHS Directive specifies that an electronic product or component may not contain lead, except as specifically provided in the directive. HP recognizes the hazards associated with these substances. HP will be in compliance with the European requirements for lead, mercury, cadmium, and other restricted chemicals prior to the July 1, 2006 implementation date.

Investigating Alternatives to Lead

To meet our goal, HP is actively investigating alternatives to the use of lead in its electronic products (including printed circuit assemblies and related components). HP has done extensive research on substitute materials to ensure that the alternatives are technologically feasible and to ensure that product performance or quality is not compromised.

Collaboration with Industry & Suppliers

Industry standard solutions to lead elimination are best for HP, our extensive supplier base, and ultimately for our customers. We have chosen to openly share information regarding alternatives to lead in electronic assemblies where the sharing of that information does not violate confidentiality agreements. In order to develop and demonstrate reliable, environmentally responsible alternatives to lead, HP is actively working with our supply chain partners and others in the industry, including but not limited to: industry consortia, material and component suppliers, contract manufacturers, and original equipment manufacturers (OEM's). HP is co-leading the Pb-free assembly and rework project of the National Electronics Manufacturing Initiative (NEMI) consortium.

Helping to Define the Requirements

HP is also working with other manufacturers to provide industry input to the European technical committee charged with defining the specific implementation requirements contained in the RoHS directive. This includes their determination of what will be considered "lead free" from a regulatory standpoint. HP will adhere to the definition of lead-free electronic products ultimately adopted by the EU RoHS technical committee.

To find out more about HP's environmental program go to: <http://www.hp.com/environment>.

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